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REVIEW OF KIRGIZ SSR AGRICULTURAL PROGRESS AT REPUBLIC PARTY CONGRESS

The report on 20 September 1952 by I. R. Razzakov, secretary of the TsK KP(b) Kirgiz SSR, to the Sixth Congress of the KP(b) Kirgiz SSR contained the following information on the progress of agriculture in the republic:

During the period since the Fifth Congress of the KP(b) Kirgiz SSR in 1949, further progress has been made in the sphere of agriculture. The sown area has been expanded, crop yields have risen, gross harvests of agricultural crops have increased, and the number of head of collectivized livestock has increased.

During the Fourth Five-Year Plan, the sown area in kolkhozes of the republic increased by 13.7 percent, including that under industrial crops by 21.7 percent. In 1951, the total sown area was 49,500 hectares greater than in 1948.

In 1950, as compared with 1945, the yield of grain crops had risen by 26 percent; cotton, 2.2 times; and sugar beets, 100 percent. During the 5-year period, production of grain increased by 33 percent; cotton, 3.5 times, and sugar beets, almost 100 percent.

In 1951, several million more pud of grain, hundreds of thousands more quintals of raw cotton, and several million more quintals of sugar beets were delivered to the state than in 1945.

During the period 1946 - 1950, capital expenditures for irrigation amounted to 77.5 million rubles. An increase of 38,000 hectares of new irrigated land was attained. An area of 274,000 hectares of kolkhoz land was prepared for conversion to the new system of irrigation.

Tractor power in MTS and sovkhoses rose by 42.7 percent. The republic received a large number of tractors, combines, hay mowers, cotton pickers, bulldozers, scrapers, and excavators.

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At present, more than three fourths of all plowing in the republic is performed by tractor, and more than half of the area sown to grain is harvested by combine. Soil preparation for sowing and care of growing cotton and sugar beets are almost fully mechanized.

During the period 1949 - 1951, the number of head of all types of livestock in kolkhozes increase considerably.

All kolkhozes of the republic have four animal husbandry farms, including three productive livestock and fowl farms. One fourth of all kolkhozes have livestock numbers in excess of the established minimum. In 1951, as compared with 1945, the number of purebred cattle in kolkhozes of the republic increased 2.8 times and that of purebred sheep almost doubled.

In 1951, kolkhozes delivered 28.5 percent more meat and 47.5 percent more wool to the state than in 1948.

Considerable work has been done with respect to consolidation of small kolkhozes. There are now 752 kolkhozes as compared with 1,620 before consolidation.

Despite these successes, many serious deficiencies still impede the development of agriculture in the republic.

Animal Husbandry

Although the most important branch of agriculture in the republic, animal husbandry is still the most lagging branch of the republic's economy. The Three-Year Livestock Development Plan was not fulfilled.

Epidemics (padezh), pilferage, and diversion of collectivized livestock are permitted in kolkhozes of the republic. Increases of young livestock in kolkhozes are small because of failure to breed the adult females and because of poor care of those which are bred. Wintering of livestock was especially poor in the republic the last two winters. In 1951, the birthrate of young animals per 100 adult females was very low: 49 colts, 58 calves, and 68 lambs and kids.

The problem of increasing the productivity of collectivized livestock is also being solved very unsatisfactorily. The tasks of supplying livestock with adequate supplies of coarse and succulent fodder and concentrated feed, as well as providing livestock with adequate shelters, have not been accomplished. Livestock is maintained on pasture under the open sky almost the entire year. The plan for sowing of fodder crops is regularly not fulfilled. The necessary work for hay meadow and pasture improvement is not carried out.

Thus far, the matter of fattening and finishing livestock to be delivered to the state for meat has not been organized. With expert organization and rational performance of these tasks, it would be possible to deliver high-quality meat to the state and to save tens of thousands of head of livestock.

Construction and repair of livestock shelters are unsatisfactory year after year. Also unsatisfactory are such measures as improving herd composition, quality, and providing veterinary service.

During the Fifth Five-Year Plan, the republic faces great tasks in the sphere of animal husbandry, especially in the development of sheep raising. To accomplish the tasks set by the plan, it is necessary to eliminate each and every one of the deficiencies cited above.

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Soil Tillage

The basic task of obtaining large and stable harvests of all agricultural crops has not been accomplished in the republic. The prewar gross grain harvest level has not yet been reattained. The development of both cotton growing and beet growing is lagging seriously. During the last 3 years, the republic has not fulfilled the plans for yield or procurement of cotton and sugar beets.

The grass-field crop rotation system has been introduced in 410 kolkhozes of the republic, but has been mastered in only 195 kolkhozes; in many kolkhozes, the crop rotation system is being grossly violated.

There are great deficiencies in the work of MTS. Important tractor work is performed at improper times, with long delays, and is of low quality. Tractors and agricultural machines are not utilized at full capacity. Machines are permitted to stand idle, with attendant waste of fuel.

MTS and MZHS do not cope with tasks of mechanizing labor-consuming operations, especially in fodder procurement.

Electrification of kolkhozes and sovkhoses is being carried out unsatisfactorily. The plan for construction of kolkhoz electric power stations is not being fulfilled. Since 1949, 92 such stations should have been built and put in operation, but only 37 were built.

For the period 1952 - 1954, 250 million rubles have been allotted for new water resource construction; this sum is more than three times as great as that spent for irrigation construction work during the postwar Five-Year Plan.

Construction of the Orto-Tokoysskoye Reservoir and Bol'shoy Chuyskiy Canal projects is pointed out in the Fifth Five-Year Plan directives. In addition, it is planned, in 1953 - 1954, to reconstruct the Karauntur-Say and Ak-Bury irrigation systems, to irrigate the Kyzyl-Dzharskaya Steppe, to construct small water reservoirs in Frunzenskaya Oblast, and to begin reconstruction of the On-Archa and Echki-Bashi irrigation systems in Tyan'-Shan'skaya Oblast. Completion of all contemplated irrigation projects during the Fifth Five-Year Plan will permit expansion of the area under irrigation in the republic by more than 120,000 hectares.

During the Fifth Five-Year Plan, not less than 5,000 hectares of shelter belts must be established in kolkhozes and sovkhoses of the republic.

In 1953 - 1954, 10 MTS and MZHS are to be built and existing MTS provided with additional new machinery. During the same period, a number of rural hydro-electric power stations with a total capacity of 23,000 kilowatts are to be built and put in operation.

Party organizations of the republic have performed some work to eliminate Kolkhoz Charter violations. Many thousands of hectares of diverted collectivized land and much livestock, grain, and money have been recovered and returned to the kolkhozes. However, pilferage and diversion of land, livestock, grain, money, and other property continues in many kolkhozes. It is necessary to deal decisively with these antistate, antikolkhoz tendencies.

Many kolkhozes have no repair or auxiliary enterprises. A goal to be striven for is that in the next years, each kolkhoz will have a well-equipped blacksmith shop, machine shop, carpentry shop, and minor repair shop, as well as enterprises producing construction materials.

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For transport purposes, many cotton and beet-growing kolkhozes have only five to six light horse-drawn vehicles (brichka). A goal to be striven for is that within 1-2 years, each kolkhoz have not less than 30-40 such vehicles. It is necessary to organize mass production of such vehicles in local, timber industry, and cooperative enterprises, as well as on kolkhozes themselves.

Sovkhozes

Sovkhozes of the Ministry of State Farms Kirgiz SSR fulfilled the Three-Year Livestock Development Plan. However, there are substantial deficiencies in the work of sovkhoses and horse farms. Many sovkhoses have still not eliminated livestock epidemics (padezh skota) and failure to breed adult female stock; sovkhoses produce young stock of poor quality and fail to increase livestock productivity.

In some sovkhoses and horse farms, field cultivation and particularly fodder production are in deplorable condition. In many sovkhoses, little attention is paid to economical operation of the farms.

The most important tasks of sovkhoses are to increase sharply output of fine and semifine wool, meat, and milk and to supply kolhozes with purebred stock.

It is necessary to complete mechanization of all labor-consuming operations in sovkhoses. Construction of homes and farm buildings must be carried out on a wide scale.

Six out of 26 sovkhoses in the republic are laggards which regularly fail to cope with their tasks. The Ministry of State Farms continually fails to provide adequate supervision and has for that reason not eliminated lagging in these sovkhoses. It is necessary to demand of Minister Turatbekov that he put an end to lagging in these sovkhoses and elevate them during the next years to the level of leading sovkhoses in the republic.

Conclusion

Successful accomplishment of the great tasks facing agriculture in the republic requires solution of the following problems:

1. Considerable rise in labor productivity.
2. Elimination of lags in agricultural operations such as plowing of winter fallow and harvesting.
3. Improved supervision of kolkhozes, MTS, and sovkhoses.

More than one half of the kolkhoz chairmen in the republic have a low education so that it is very difficult for them to deal with questions of agronomy, machinery utilization, labor organization, and financial matters. Altogether, only 84 agricultural specialists serve as kolkhoz chairmen. Furthermore, 23 MTS directors and 13 sovkhos directors do not have even an average specialized education.

During the last 2 years, the Kirgiz SSR has engaged in socialist competition with the Kazakh SSR for further progress in animal husbandry and with the Uzbek SSR, for further progress in cotton growing. The experience of these 2 years shows that socialist competition and periodic checking on the progress of the competition permit the workers of the republic to acquaint themselves with the experiences and accomplishments of other republics and to emulate their successes. The competitions between the three republics should be continued.

For the remainder of 1952, the republic still faces difficult and great tasks.

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Kolkhozes and sovkhoses of the republic fulfilled the plan for delivery of grain to the state 30 days earlier than in 1951; several million more pud of grain were delivered than in 1951. The plan for procurement of medicinal poppies was successfully fulfilled.

Tasks which have not yet been fulfilled are harvesting and threshing of grain crops and sowing of winter crops. The experience of 1951, when a considerable portion of grain crops remained unharvested under the snow, must not be repeated.

Harvesting and procurement of cotton and sugar beets began and is continuing in an unorganized manner. Fulfillment of the plans for development of collectivized livestock and procurement of animal products is proceeding entirely unsatisfactorily.

Fodder procurement is going badly. Equally unsatisfactory is the progress being made in construction and repair of livestock shelters.

Heads of party, Soviet, and agricultural organizations and agricultural specialists should bear clearly in mind that on successful completion of the current agricultural year depends to a great degree successful fulfillment of the Fifth Five-Year Plan in the sphere of agriculture.

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